

FIRE CUTS SECTION OF GREER & SON'S CARRIAGE FACTORY

Several Thousand Dollars Worth of Damage.

LIGHTNING TO BLAME Theory Is That Bolt Entered by Way of Electric Wires.

Fire, believed to have been caused by lightning, did damage, which early estimates placed at several thousands of dollars to the wood shops of the A. B. Greer & Son's carriage factory, at the corner of Talbot and York streets, last night. Materials in the paint shops immediately above the wood shops, and on the ground floor, immediately below, were damaged to some extent by smoke and water. All damage is fully covered by insurance.

That the fire was not more serious, Fire Chief Aitken ascribed to the fact that every evening after work is finished, the fire department is on duty, and that the fire department, and close all doors separating the various sections of the plant. The chief declared that had the door of the wood shop been open, the fire never could have been confined to the one section, and almost certainly would have got into the paint shop, and probably involved the whole building.

As it was the firemen had a hard fight to keep the blaze from spreading, and before they had extinguished the last signs of the fire, the flames had partially penetrated through the rafters of the wood shop and the floor of the paint shop.

The fire was first discovered at 3:45 p.m. Mr. Greer, eleven-year-old son, remarked of a particularly loud peal of thunder that: "That sounds as though it was right at the door. I wonder if it hit anything." Mr. Greer, himself feeling uneasy at that score, went outside, and, passing down the lane at the side of the factory, discovered that smoke was pouring from the windows of the wood shop on the second floor. Entering the office at the front he secured his keys and attempted to ascend to the wood shop, but was driven back by dense smoke. He immediately sent an alarm, and the firemen responded promptly.

When they arrived they found it necessary to force an entrance to the burning section by way of the front. They found the interior of the shop a mass of flames. Several streams of water were poured onto the burning hearth and carriage bodies stored in the shop. By 10:30 p.m. all danger was believed to have passed, although the chief and a few of his men remained on the scene as a precautionary measure until after 11 o'clock.

Mr. Greer made a partial survey of the damage last night, and, although he said he could not at that time estimate its extent with any degree of closeness, he added that it would certainly run into a good many thousands. The most serious aspect of the situation from his point of view was the unavoidable delay in filling orders. Repair work would be commenced at once, he said, but several weeks at least would be needed before work could be recommenced in the department. In the meantime, the laying off of several men would be unavoidable.

Chief Aitken's theory, which coincides with that of Mr. Greer, is that lightning entering the shop along the electric wiring, started the fire, which apparently originated near a wood-working bench in one corner of the shop.

ARGENTINA'S CORN CROP.
Buenos Ayres, April 22.—Argentina's corn crop for the present year will be 6,571,000 Spanish tons, equivalent to 258,897,000 Canadian bushels, according to official figures made public today.

As each section of the building was invaded the first indication was the appearance of feathery puffs of smoke between the tiles. Then gradually the roof would buckle, disclosing the red girders beneath. Then followed a succession of crashes, as tiles fell onto the concrete walk, and a greater crash as a whole section of the roof fell in, carrying the fire into the lower portions of the building. The final section to be ravaged was the south end, including the tower. When the roof of this gave way the flames escaped through the top with a roar and lighted up the grounds so that one could see as clearly and with as great detail as in broad daylight.

By 1:30 the flames were sweeping through the basement and lower floors, and at the time of going to press the bulk was still blazing on the main floor. Long before that time, however, it needed no special intelligence to realize that not a single thing capable of being burned would escape the holocaust. The College Institute was built in 1890. The cost of replacing it under present conditions is impossible to estimate at present, but it certainly would be at least three times as much as the original cost. Naturally, from some points of view, the loss is irreparable.

Fortunately, the destruction of the school need not involve serious interruption of the studies of the collegiate pupils. The Technical School has ample accommodation for them, and they will be moved there to continue their studies at once.

Perhaps there may be some, also, who will feel that the burning of the school is not an unmixed evil, inasmuch as it will force action along the line of providing more adequate permanent Collegiate Institute accommodation, a need which has been obvious for some years.

When the alarm was turned in the firemen had barely reached their respective stations following a run to the plant of A. B. Greer & Son, where they had a strenuous fight. In spite of that, however, they went to work again with no indication of fatigue, and worked steadily through until the early morning hours.

The night's fire is probably the biggest calamity traceable to an electrical storm which London has suffered. Serious fires from such causes are not, in fact, being practically unknown in the past.

Fireman Hurt.
Lieut. Tom Mason of No. 4 firehall had his face badly bruised and cut by pieces of flying timber during the fire on the east side of the building.

In addition to the heroic work of the small boys in rescuing part of the school equipment, good work was done by three of the female teachers, Misses Manley, Kelso and McIsaac. They got out all of the domestic science equipment, which was movable.

The roof on the west side of the building, which had been holding up well, crashed in at 2 o'clock knocking the remaining part of the roof off and threatening the lives of a number of firemen with a line of hose who were standing on the roof of the gymnasium.

Through the poor water pressure during the early stages of the fight some of the boys who were acting as spectators were called on to do a job, which no other than them could have done. They were called on to break the breaking of windows with stones so that the hose lines could be turned on the interior of the building.

The fire was burning steadily at 2:15 in spite of the number of "dynamite" hoses which had been turned on. All of the floors had caved in by this time, and the burning good food for the flames, which mounted high as each room took fire.

This morning the embers were still smoldering.

LONDON COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE COMPLETELY DESTROYED BY FIRE STARTED BY LIGHTNING

Loss May Reach Quarter of a Million Dollars — Only the Walls Left Standing—Technical School Will Be Used Temporarily by Pupils So As Not To Interfere With Approaching Examinations.

What yesterday was the London Collegiate Institute is today nothing but an empty shell of blackened walls. Within little more than an hour the fire-devil reduced to ruin the structure in which so many of London's sons and daughters have received their education. The building was practically destroyed from the time that the fire was first discovered. The firemen put up a good fight and a brave one, but from the first it was obvious that their efforts were in the nature of a forlorn attempt.

Starting in the chemistry room on the top floor at the north end of the school, the fire, believed to have originated from a lightning stroke, had gained such headway before the flames could be seen from the outside, that by the time the alarm was given and response made by the fire department the whole of the roof of the northern section of the school, as well as the interior of the upper floor, was a mass of such flame as no streams of water could have quenched.

All that mortal men could do the firemen did. Men stood on the fire escape at the north end of the building and in the very windows on the west side, from which flames were actually shooting, and they did their best to prevent the fire from spreading to the other and more southerly section of the building. Even when the heat became so intense that on-lookers standing near the burning building felt the faces scorching, the firemen maintained their posts, and they did their best to prevent the fire from spreading to the other and more southerly section of the building. Even when the heat became so intense that on-lookers standing near the burning building felt the faces scorching, the firemen maintained their posts, and they did their best to prevent the fire from spreading to the other and more southerly section of the building.

From time to time huge sections of the roof fell in with loud rumblings. At one time a tumbled pile of rubble from the school were in the main section of the building salvaging books, furniture and other things which had been thrown from the inside through the windows. In two instances at least the roof fell within inches of the heads of two venturesome youngsters. At one time a very few minutes after the alarm the grounds surrounding the school were packed with people, many of whom had left their beds at a few minutes' notice. The fire was discovered shortly before midnight and by 1 o'clock the whole interior of the school was virtually a mass of flames. A long time afterwards flames still raged inside the structure, but hope had been abandoned of then saving anything except the outer walls.

At one time those without technical knowledge thought that the fire was under control. This occurred when the firemen succeeded in beating the flames back from the windows sufficiently to permit of leaning through the openings work of the strong against the frame-work of the building. The men who were doing this knew that the odds were overwhelmingly against them, but they could do or hope for success.

Puffs of Smoke.
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Protest Is Entered By Buyer of House Under Housing Plan

Mrs. Harvey Claims Price Was Raised After She Had Purchased.

The area of Pine Lawn, on which the housing commission plans to erect 42 houses, may be increased from ten acres to fifteen acres. The commission last night instructed its architect, E. W. Pamphill, to make a survey, including five acres south of the property which is already in possession of the commission. A survey of the ten acres has been made already. The commission wishes to see if houses could be laid out better on a larger site.

Mrs. R. Harvey appeared before the commission and registered a vigorous protest in regard to a house which had been built for her. She claimed that P. W. Wilson, who was official investigator for the commission, had sold her the house for \$2,175. The commission had told her subsequently that Mr. Wilson had no authority to make a sale, and that the cost would be \$2,600 or \$2,800.

Mrs. Harvey said she could not pay the much larger amount. The commission agreed to let her stay in the house for a new week, at a rental corresponding with the first price given, while she looked for a new house. Mrs. Harvey claimed that she could not find another house, and thought the house should be sold at the original price.

Commissioners H. H. Head, J. W. Cunliffe and Victor Jackson were appointed a committee to inquire into the cost of this and other dwellings, and to report at the next meeting. Mrs. Harvey will see them if the price is suitable to her, and if not the commission will try to reach some other agreement with her. The members pointed out that they had no authority to rent a house. It must be sold to someone else if not to Mrs. Harvey.

THE TECUMSEH MOTHERS' CLUB HEARS MRS. KELLY.
Mrs. W. E. Kelly was the speaker at an enthusiastic meeting of the Tecumseh Mothers' Club, held at the school last evening. One of the features of this meeting was the distribution to the members of a booklet on "Life Problems" for them to place in the hands of their children if they wished to do so.

It was announced at this meeting that about 500 had been realized from the recent fund-raising for the Sick Children's Hospital.

It was further decided by a unanimous vote of the meeting that the members of the Tecumseh Mothers' Club would stand behind the movement to check the high cost of necessary clothing and food. An interesting feature of the meeting was a presentation made to Mrs. Suer, treasurer of the club, who leaves shortly for Detroit.

WHEN TONGUE IS COATED
your liver is torpid and is affecting your stomach and bowels. To rouse your liver, take the little, purely vegetable and in-all-ways satisfactory Hood's Pills. They relieve biliousness, constipation, all liver ills. Do not irritate or gripe. Sold by all druggists.

Millinery Surprise Saturday, \$11.50

"Fisk" Hats---Some One-Third Original Prices

A special purchase made this week. Fifty Hats, which will be sold Saturday all at one price. Here is an opportunity to have a real hat at a very moderate price, and such an assortment of models. Transparent brims, flower brims, close-fitting, large and medium shapes and transparent dress hats. We need not describe these hats. Sufficient to say they are "Fisk's," and every hat in the group is a "Fisk," which assures style and smartness. All colors and color combinations. Early choosing Saturday morning will be to your advantage. All one price \$11.50 each

Banded Hats For Girls and Misses, \$1.39

These are about half price. Three dozen only. Banded straws, with streamers, for girls 7 to 15 years, in a variety of shapes, with long ribbon streamers, in black and navy. These should go quickly, as they are all smart, new and up-to-date shapes. All one price. Your choice \$1.39

Saturday Sale of \$1.59 Voile Blouses



Five dozen White Voile Blouses, made of splendid fine quality, full-length set-in sleeve, with lace-trimmed or hem-stitched cuffs. These blouses have embroidered fronts or trimmed with tucking; several different cuts in collars, edged with dainty lace. A number of styles to choose from. Sizes 34 to 44. Price \$1.59

Sale of Travelers' Samples—Brussels and Wilton Carpets—Less Than Half

These Carpet Samples, 48 in all, are each 27 inches by 54 inches, in four lots for Saturday morning. Sale prices \$2.75, \$3.25, \$4.00 and \$4.50 each Carpets—Third Floor.

Table Damasks



ITEMS OF INTEREST, at quite considerable saving are briefly mentioned below. The products of the well-known Shamrock Brand Mills; a substitute for linen; Colleen Brand, fully mercerized Egyptian cotton damasks, that we guarantee to give satisfaction in laundry and wear. See these special Damask Sets, delightful designs for round tables: Luncheon Cloths, Napkins, etc.

45-inch, 54-inch, 63-inch Colleen Brand Fine Mercerized Hemstitched Damask Cloths. These are most popular as luncheon cloths; design and quality are most pleasing, and prices so moderate \$2.65, \$3.25, \$4.25 each

Colored Border Breakfast Cloths, \$3.95—Colleen Brand, 1 1/4 x 1 3/4 yards; fine mercerized cloths, with dainty blue or red border; also all white. These are exceptional value at \$3.95 each

20-inch Colleen Brand Napkins—\$4.25 dozen. Superfine Egyptian yarn, insuring wear and good laundering qualities; choice designs in ivy, shamrock, tulip and spot; 20-inch. Special \$4.25

Damask Sets, Cloth and Napkins to match, in very dainty floral and conventional patterns, at popular prices \$10.75 to \$16.50 per set

Saturday For Men and Boys

MEN'S SOCKS, 19c PAIR

Men's Cotton Socks, assorted shades, about 30 dozen, for a clearance Saturday, all sizes. Special at 19c pair

Men's Hats Made-in-Canada

The Brock Hat, in soft felt or the derby will give you great service. The soft felt is in a variety of shades, well made, and very smart styles. The derby, in black only, is right up-to-the-minute, both in style and quality. All sizes. Prices \$5.00 and \$6.50

Flannelette Nightshirts

Extra good quality, stripe pattern, with collar attached; full, roomy bodies; small, medium and large. Price \$3.00 each

Men's Merino Shirts and Drawers

Natural shade, good spring weight, exceptional value; all sizes \$1.25 garment

Boys' Reefers

Another large range of Boys' Reefers for boys 2 to 6 years. Special for Made-in-Canada Week \$3.95 and \$4.75 THESE ARE BIG VALUES.

"HIS MASTER'S VOICE." All the New Records. Hear Them on a Victor. Third Floor.

Crown Attorney J. E. McKillop presided.

Made-in-Canada SPECIALS

For Saturday shoppers, who, perhaps, have not had the opportunity of participating in the week's special features of Made-in-Canada goods, we have listed a few numbers of extra special worth. Any one of them will repay a visit to these counters.

HEMMED PILLOW CASES, made of very superior longcloth, a perfect bleach and of even weave; a bargain not easy to duplicate; 42-inch only. Special 95c pair

9-4 SHEETING, extra size sheets made of this sheeting are a comfort to sleep between; the quality is good, and they will wash and wear well. Quantity here is strictly limited, and will not be replaced at this price; 9-4 69c yard

WHITE FLANNELETTE for children's wear and nursery purposes. This is a nice, soft, finished cloth, very suitable for the purposes mentioned. You have a real bargain here for Saturday only 10 yards for \$3.25

SPECIAL NAINSOOK for dainty lingerie. The Wash Goods Section is offering you a big inducement to visit that department. The material is durable, free from filling, washes easily. Note width and price; 40 inches 39c yard

Saturday Special Honan Silk, \$1.95

Something you must not overlook Saturday. Make a note of it on your shopping list. We are showing "Honan Silks" (colored raw silks), suitable for street dresses, office wear or school apparel. Reliable, serviceable wear. Colors, sky, navy, black, tan, grey, russet, brown; 39 inches wide. Price \$1.95 yard

TUSSAH SILK, 98c YARD.
Tussah Silk, two pieces only, about 125 yards. This should not last but a few minutes at the price offered; only in the natural raw silk shade. Suitable for ladies' summer dresses and waists; also children's wear; also can be used for men's shirts. This silk washes beautifully; full 36 inches wide. Price 98c yard

Made-in-Canada Soaps on Sale Saturday

English Glycerine Soap, clear amber. Price 2 for 25c
Old Brown Windsor. Price 3 for 25c
Floating Bath Tablet. Price 3 for 25c
Vinolia Castile. Price 23c bar
Peroxide Bath Tablet. Price 3 for 25c
Vinolia All-Round Bath Tablet. Price 20c each
Vinolia Sweet Pea or Lavender Soap. Price 2 for 25c
Olive Oil Castile. Price 25c bar

Made-in-Canada Week

Colored Two-Handled Market Baskets, just the kind you need. Special 98c
Covered Market Baskets 35c, 50c, 65c
Colored Open Indian Baskets \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75
Great West Toilet Paper 4 for 25c
Satisfactory Toilet Paper 3 for 25c
Diamond Toilet Paper 25c
O'Cedar Mops, round \$1.50
Liquid Wax Oil Polish 30c, 60c
Scrub Brushes 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c
Nail Brushes 6c
Whisks 25c, 35c, 50c, 60c
Brooms 60c, 80c, 90c, \$1.00, \$1.25

Men's and Young Men's Suits, \$42

These include the choicest models; high waist effects, new lapels, single and double breasted; long tapering styles, and the conservative business suit. A suit from this lot will give entire satisfaction. All sizes. Price \$42.00
Others from \$25.00 to \$95.00

Topcoats for Men and Young Men

SPECIAL FEATURE FOR SATURDAY AT \$42.00
Coats of quality and the best models; light, medium and dark shades. Come here Saturday for your top-coat. MADE IN CANADA. Price \$42.00
Also Top-Coats at \$25.00 to \$75.00

Boys' Suits

A splendid choice of all-wool in the newest models; shades to suit and satisfaction guaranteed. Bring the boys here Saturday for a real serviceable suit. Prices \$16.50 to \$20.00
Others \$15.00 to \$27.50

BOYS' BLUE SERGE SUITS

The Irish Blue Serge Suits are great favorites. Famous for durability and shape-keeping qualities. All smart models. Prices \$20.00 to \$26.00

Juvenile Suits

For the small boys, 4 to 6 years. Fit out the little lads here on Saturday. A very choice lot of suits in all the best styles at a great saving to you. Extra special \$7.69

THE "DUPLEX" FIRELESS COOKER. See Them in the Basement.

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YOUR SATURDAY TREAT CANDIES

100 lbs. Cowan's Maple Buds and Medallions 60c lb.
100 lbs. Hand-Dipped Chocolates, hard centres and caramels 59c lb.

Made-in-Canada Underwear For Ladies

Ladies' Athletic Combinations, made of flesh nainsook, mercerized mull and silk crepe. Prices \$2.25, \$3.75 and \$6.50
Fine Lisle Combinations, low neck, sleeveless, finished with fine linen lace edging; drawers tight or loose knee, open style. Prices \$2.50 and \$3.00
Combed Cotton Vests, low neck, short sleeves, finished around neck and sleeves with fine tulle lace edging. Prices \$1.15 and \$1.35
Cream Wool Vests, light spring weight, low neck, sleeveless or short sleeves. Price \$2.00
5 dozen only. Ladies' Fine Knit Cotton Combinations, low neck, finished with hem, sleeveless, loose knee; drawers lace-trimmed, open style; sizes 36 and 38. Price 95c
Cotton Vests, low neck, sleeveless or short sleeves; out-size. Price 50c

Second Floor.

SATURDAY In the Basement

Colored Two-Handled Market Baskets, just the kind you need. Special 98c
Covered Market Baskets 35c, 50c, 65c
Colored Open Indian Baskets \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75
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